

Training

Opposing Force Program

**Headquarters
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Washington, DC
15 June 1983**

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SUMMARY of CHANGE

AR 350-2

Opposing Force Program

This is a transitional reprint of this publication which places it in the new update format. Any previously published permanent numbered changes have been incorporated into the text. This publication has been reorganized to make it compatible with the Army electronic publishing database. No content has been changed.

Effective 15 July 1983

Training

Opposing Force Program

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

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General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Official:

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The Adjutant General

History. This UPDATE issue is a reprint of the original form of this regulation that was published on 15 June 1983. Since that time, no changes have been issued to amend the original. This publication has been

reorganized to make it compatible with the Army electronic publishing database. No content has been changed.

Summary. This regulation prescribes the objectives, program structure, and responsibilities concerning the integration of the Opposing Force (OPFOR) program into Army-wide training. This revision updates the use of foreign materiel for training in the OPFOR program.

Applicability. This regulation applies to the Active Army, the Army National Guard, and the US Army Reserve. Impact on New Manning System. This regulation does not contain information that affects the New Manning System.

Supplementation. Supplementation of this regulation is prohibited unless prior approval

is obtained from HQDA (DAMI-ISI), WASH DC 20310.

Interim changes. Interim changes to this regulation are not official unless they are authenticated by The Adjutant General. Users will destroy interim changes on their expiration dates unless sooner superseded or rescinded.

Suggested Improvements. The proponent agency for this regulation is the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to HQDA(DAMI-ISI), WASH DC 20310.

Distribution. Active Army, ARNG, USAR—C.

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* This regulation supersedes AR 350–2, 15 August 1978, and rescinds RCS CSGID-141 and RCS CSGID-143.

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Section I Introduction

1. Purpose

This regulation establishes Department of the Army (DA) objectives, responsibilities, and guidance for the Opposing Force (OPFOR) program.

2. References

Related publications are listed in appendix A.

3. Explanation of abbreviations and terms

Abbreviations and special terms used in this regulation are listed in the glossary.

4. Objectives

The objectives of the OPFOR program are to—

- a. Develop an appreciation of the capabilities, strengths, and weaknesses of the combat doctrine, tactics, equipment, and organization of the armed forces of potential adversaries.
- b. Develop a sense of purpose in training by focusing on potential rather than fictional adversaries.
- c. Provide realistic field training through operations against a noncooperative opposing force that uses the tactics and, when possible, the equipment of potential adversary armed forces.
- d. Improve and expand unit combined arms, intelligence, electronic warfare, counterintelligence, operations security, tactical cover and deception, and defense against unconventional warfare capabilities.

5. Planning, programing, budgeting, and execution

- a. All Army commands, agencies, and activities will respond to DA planning, programing, and budgeting guidance on the OPFOR program through channels according to Army Planning, Programing, Budgeting, and Execution System guidance.
- b. Command OPFOR requirements, identified during program development in the Program Analysis and Resource Review (PARR), will be explicit and will not be included in other major programs.
- c. Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) will fund for the acquisition of end items of foreign materiel for training (FMT) used in the OPFOR program(OPFOR FMT.)
- d. Commands with requirements for OPFOR FMT will notify both HQDA(DAMA-RQ) and HQDA(DAMI-ISI), WASH DC 20310 of these requirements by electrical message no later than 1 week after PARR submission.

Section II Responsibilities

6. Heads of Army General Staff agencies

Heads of Army General Staff agencies will supervise the OPFOR program at the HQDA level as outlined below. (See AR 350-1 for Army training.)

- a. Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence(ACSI). The ACSI will supervise the management of the OPFOR program Army-wide. As Staff Program Manager, the ACSI will—
 - (1) Develop program policies, objectives, and guidelines.
 - (2) Officially designate which foreign nations or organizations are potential adversaries.
 - (3) Monitor OPFOR training, training development, and combat development activities.
 - (4) Provide program planning guidance.
 - (5) Emphasize to Department of Defense (DOD)intelligence collection agencies the importance of obtaining unclassified information on potential adversary armed forces.
 - (6) Coordinate, manage, and direct the acquisition of certain FMT to support OPFOR program objectives. These actions will be accomplished together with concerned major Army commands (MACOMs), DA agencies such as the Foreign Science and Technology Center, and DOD agencies.

(7) Coordinate funding for the transportation of OPFOR FMT from point of acquisition to the ultimate holding unit or installation.

(8) Arrange for the transportation of OPFOR FMT from the point of acquisition to the US port of entry.

(9) Provide intelligence support to the OPFOR program.

(10) Review, together with the deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, program and budget data submitted by the MACOMs to insure that program development supports program objectives.

(11) Submit program and budget data to major program directors for OPFOR-related resources.

(12) Establish a Program Development Increment Package (PDIP) for OPFOR, as appropriate, and consolidate MACOM input into it. Manage the OPFOR PDIP throughout the program and budget cycles.

b. Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans (DCSOPS). The DCSOPS will—

(1) Review, together with the ACSI, OPFOR program policies, objectives, and guidelines as a part of other existing training programs.

(2) Integrate the OPFOR program into other existing training programs.

(3) Develop and prioritize Army requirements for OPFOR FMT together with requirements for other training equipment and for foreign materiel for testing.

(4) Submit to the US Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) any historical studies prepared by the Center for Military History on foreign military doctrine and capabilities that may assist in the training and combat development portions of the OPFOR program.

c. Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (DCSPER). The DCSPER will establish policy for the physical security of OPFOR FMT.

d. Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (DCSLOG). The DCSLOG will—

(1) Perform applicable base operations support of OPFOR FMT for other than program mission costs.

(2) Advise and assist on OPFOR program guidelines that affect property accountability and logistics support of OPFOR FMT.

(3) Provide HQDA-level staff guidance on transportation policy and procedures associated with air and surface transportation requirements related to the movement of OPFOR FMT.

e. Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development, and Acquisition (DCSRDA). The DCSRDA will—

(1) Coordinate foreign materiel procured for research and development with the OPFOR program.

(2) Release to the US Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) all foreign materiel on which operational testing is completed and which is suitable for the OPFOR program.

f. Comptroller of the Army (COA). The COA will supervise financial matters related to OPFOR FMT.

7. Commanding General, US Army Training and Doctrine Command (CG, TRADOC)

The CG, TRADOC is the DA Executive Agent for integrating OPFOR into Army-wide training. The CG, TRADOC will—

a. Develop and manage Army-wide procedures for reporting lessons learned and insights gleaned about Army capabilities, tactics, and operations which are successful against the combat forces of potential adversary armed forces or groups. Insure that these lessons are fully considered by training combat, and materiel developers.

b. Insure that Army Training and Evaluation Programs (ARTEPs) specify a realistic training environment to include an appropriately sized and equipped OPFOR which actually replicates the potential adversary.

c. Develop joint air-ground procedures for OPFOR units at the National Training Center (NTC). Coordinate these procedures with the US Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) and the US Air Force Tactical Air Command.

d. Develop OPFOR training aids, devices, and simulators.

e. Develop and publish training manuals and films or video tapes to support the OPFOR program.

f. Include OPFOR training in both resident and non-resident programs of instruction at all TRADOC schools.

8. Commanding General, US Army Intelligence and Security Command (CG, INSCOM)

The CG, INSCOM is the DA Executive Agent for worldwide control, maintenance, training, logistic support, and distribution planning for OPFOR FMT. The CG, INSCOM will—

a. Develop and implement a system for inspection, centralized inventory accountability, and maintenance of OPFOR FMT. This includes weapons, ammunition, vehicles, and replacement parts.

b. Certify as safe all foreign small arms for firing under the OPFOR program.

c. Act as the DA Executive Agent for filling requisitions of authorized and available OPFOR FMT major end items, weapons, and ammunition in accordance with priorities developed by DCSOPS, DA.

d. Acquire OPFOR FMT as directed by ACSI, DA.

e. Arrange for transportation of OPFOR FMT from US port of entry to holding units or installations.

f. Provide safety, technical maintenance, and operator training to representatives of units and installations authorized to hold OPFOR FMT. Such training is at the expense of the requesting unit or installation, to include temporary duty expenses incurred by either its own or INSCOM personnel.

g. Perform overhaul and all levels of maintenance on newly acquired OPFOR FMT to place it in operational condition. This includes substituting, fabricating, modifying, and acquiring repair parts.

h. Publish and distribute information and provide advice and assistance on local maintenance and repair of OPFOR FMT.

i. Publish and distribute information on the fabrication of OPFOR FMT and on the fabrication and acquisition of associated repair and replacement parts.

j. As required, publish supplementary procedures for the storage of OPFOR FMT.

k. Demilitarize and provide information on the demilitarization of selected OPFOR FMT before disposal.

l. Stockpile foreign munitions for distribution.

m. Prepare required documentation, including prescribed load lists (PLL), for repair and substitute OPFOR FMT parts.

n. Receive and redistribute or dispose of turned in OPFOR FMT.

9. Commanding General, US Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command (CG, DARCOM)

The CG, DARCOM will—

a. Release foreign materiel to INSCOM for use in the OPFOR program according to AR 700-99.

b. Consider applicable lessons learned in materiel developments.

c. Support other appropriate OPFOR program areas, such as the acquisition of OPFOR FMT.

10. Commanders of MACOMs with Active Army and Reserve Component combat units

These commanders are responsible for the effective conduct, continued development, and enhancement of the OPFOR program within their commands. These commanders will also—

a. Provide resources for and integrate OPFOR units and concepts into maneuvers, exercises, and other tactical training.

b. Insure that integrating OPFOR units into tactical training is a joint intelligence and operations effort; that is, a G2/G3 or S2/S3 effort.

11. Chief, National Guard Bureau (CNGB)

The CNGB will establish the OPFOR program in Army National Guard units.

12. Commanders of other MACOMs

Commanders of MACOMs not mentioned above are encouraged to

include and tailor OPFOR training to the missions of their organizations.

13. Commanders at all levels

Commanders at all levels must place special emphasis on safety in planning and conducting OPFOR training involving the use of foreign weapons or equipment. These commanders must insure that—

a. Foreign small arms fired as part of their OPFOR program are certified safe by INSCOM according to paragraph 8 *b.*

b. Training in the operation of OPFOR FMT and especially the firing of foreign small arms as part of their OPFOR program is supervised and conducted only by personnel trained to the standards established by INSCOM according to paragraph 8 *f.*

Section III Program Structure

14. General

The OPFOR program improves US Army tactical training by focusing on the known strengths and exploitable weaknesses of the combat doctrine, tactics, equipment, and organization of potential adversary armed forces or groups. OPFOR exercises are most effective when noncooperative opposing forces are used.

15. Concept

The OPFOR program allows commanders to see how a potential adversary will operate on the battlefield against both individuals and units. The program accomplishes this in two ways:

a. By training against a noncooperative opposing force that is using the tactics of a potential adversary. In this way, US units will become aware of potential adversary strengths and learn to exploit potential adversary weaknesses.

b. By operating as members of an OPFOR unit and using the tactics and equipment of a potential adversary. In this way, US soldiers will become aware of how a real adversary might try to overcome US tactics and equipment on the battlefield.

16. Training restrictions

Because of political, diplomatic, and security reasons, the following restrictions apply to training conducted under the OPFOR program:

a. Scenario development will be limited, when possible, to the tactical level. National or political scenarios of actual countries or groups of countries will be classified. National or political scenarios of fictitious countries or groups of countries may be unclassified, if the scenarios are not classified for other reasons.

b. Actual uniforms and insignia of a foreign country will not be used in any form of individual or unit training associated with the OPFOR program. The only acceptable uniforms and insignia for use in the OPFOR program are those developed by CG, TRADOC, according to paragraph 7 *d.*

Note: Military uniforms and insignia of actual countries with which the US is not at war may be used only for displays by orientation and briefing teams concerning foreign army familiarization and recognition training. Diplomatic protocol dictates that such uniforms and insignia are not to be associated with such terms as “potential adversary” or “enemy.” Nor can they be used by soldiers posing as or representing potential adversaries.

c. The only authorized OPFOR unit names are those designated in OPFOR training modules or those of fictitious OPFOR units developed locally. Unclassified training will not refer to the actual units of any potential adversary.

17. Training guidelines

Within resource limitations, commanders will conduct force-on-force training against a noncooperative opposing force. This opposing force will use the organizations, tactics, and when possible, the equipment or equipment replications of a potential adversary. The following guidelines are designed to achieve OPFOR program objectives:

a. Tactical training against OPFOR units representing a conventional military opponent (for example, a motorized rifle battalion)

must emphasize developing tactical skills to counter the mass and speed of potential adversaries.

b. The size of OPFOR units representing conventional forces must be at least equal to and preferably greater than that of friendly forces. For example, a US infantry company should counter two or more OPFOR rifle companies. This two (plus) to one (2+:1) ratio can be achieved by compressing the time normally required to reconstitute OPFOR units, instead of manning such units at full strength.

c. The strength of OPFOR groups representing unconventional forces (for example, terrorists or guerrillas) should be modeled on like local foreign organizations posing an actual threat to US personnel, their dependents, and US facilities.

d. Tactical training against OPFOR units must also include the exercise of special skills, assets, or techniques. These include—

- (1) Signals intelligence.
 - (2) Human intelligence.
 - (3) Imagery intelligence.
 - (4) Electronic warfare.
 - (5) Operations security.
 - (6) Counterintelligence.
 - (7) Tactical cover and deception.
 - (8) Defense against nuclear, chemical, and biological warfare.
 - (9) Defense against unconventional warfare, such as psychological operations and terrorism.
 - (10) Foreign language skills.
- e. OPFOR field training must include not only competing, non-cooperative opposing forces, but also after-action analysis and critique to emphasize lessons learned.
- f. If possible, commanders should give all soldiers the opportunity to serve as member of OPFOR units.

Section IV **Opposing Force Support Elements**

18. Divisions, regiments, and separate brigades

The commanders of divisions, regiments, and separate brigades are strongly encouraged to set up training cadres to assist subordinate units in effectively carrying out the OPFOR program. This is especially true if other OPFOR support training units such as those described in paragraph 19 d have not been set up at their installation.

19. Other supporting elements

Other elements that support the OPFOR program are—

a. *RED THRUST*. *RED THRUST* is the FORSCOM OPFOR Training Detachment. The detachment's mobile training teams provide instruction, tactical advice, and assistance to installations and units in the Active Army and Reserve Components. The teams help establish OPFOR programs and advise on using OPFOR training materials. Address correspondence to the Commander, USA FORSCOM OPFOR TNG DET (RED THRUST), P.O. BOX 5068, Fort Hood, TX 76544.

b. *203d Military Intelligence Battalion (Technical Intelligence) (203d MI Bn (TI))*. The 203d MI Bn (TI) is a subordinate unit of INSCOM's 513th Military Intelligence Group. It is INSCOM's action agent for providing OPFOR support to the Army outlined in paragraph 8. The unit is headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground and has one company stationed at the NTC, Fort Irwin, CA 92311. The 203d MI Bn (TI) provides OPFOR FMT safety, maintenance, and training support to the OPFOR program. Resident OPFOR cadre instruction is given at both of the unit's locations. Address correspondence to the Commander, 203d MI Bn (TI), Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005. (This unit was formerly the 11th MI Bn (TI).

c. *US Army Intelligence Center and School (USAICS)*. USAICS is the TRADOC Combined Arms Center's action agent for preparing threat portrayal materials for OPFOR training. For example, USAICS produces OPFOR training modules and unit training manuals on selected potential adversaries, scenario development guides for specific types of engagements, and intelligence input for exercise

play. Address correspondence to the Commander, USAICS, ATTN: ATSI-TD-CTO, Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613.

d. *OPFOR support training units*. These are FORSCOM provisional units created from installation assets to support training for assigned maneuver elements. An OPFOR training support unit's mission may include ARTEP assistance and instruction in potential adversary organization, doctrine, tactics, and equipment. These units may also have a reference library to support OPFOR training, maintain assigned OPFOR FMT, and supervise OPFOR FMT familiarization training.

Section V **Foreign Materiel for Training**

20. Function

The primary function of FMT in the OPFOR program is to familiarize soldiers with the equipment of potential adversaries. FMT may also be used by OPFOR units to increase realism during tactical exercises. However, FMT is not an essential requirement for carrying out OPFOR training. US or modified US equipment can serve almost as well.

21. Unit and installation responsibilities

HQDA and MACOM responsibilities for OPFOR FMT are prescribed in section II. Unit and installation responsibilities for OPFOR FMT are as follows.

a. *Property accountability*. When OPFOR FMT is received at the installation or unit level, property book officers will enter the item in their property books citing this regulation as their authority. The same accountability standards apply for OPFOR FMT as for US items of equipment.

b. *Transfer*. OPFOR FMT will not be transferred permanently without approval and instructions from HQ, INSCOM, according to paragraph 8 a. OPFOR FMT may be transferred temporarily, on a hand receipt basis, without HQ, INSCOM approval.

c. *Storage*. OPFOR ammunition and equipment will be stored in the same way as similar US items. When necessary, the storage procedures set up for US items will be supplemented by INSCOM, according to paragraph 8 j.

d. *Local maintenance and repair*. Installation commanders are responsible for OPFOR FMT maintenance through the general support level. Installation level maintenance activities are allowed to substitute, fabricate, modify, or acquire through local vendors such replacement and repair parts as are necessary to maintain OPFOR FMT in operational condition, if such parts are not available from the 203d MI Bn (TI). Installation level maintenance activities will contact the 203d MI Bn (TI), Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005, to determine availability of replacement and repair parts and for any technical advice required before starting modifications.

e. *Transportation*. Once a unit or installation receives OPFOR FMT, it is responsible for arranging for and funding any further OPFOR FMT transportation. This includes the return transportation of end items and repair parts to INSCOM for maintenance or turn in.

22. User guidelines

Safety considerations in operating or firing OPFOR FMT are prescribed in paragraph 13. User guidelines for access to and the physical security and use of OPFOR FMT are described below.

a. *Access*. The procedures for access to OPFOR FMT include the following:

- (1) All OPFOR FMT is unclassified.
- (2) OPFOR FMT, to include major vehicles and equipment as well as small arms, is restricted to use on and movement between installations and armories of the US Government, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the US Army Reserve, and the Army National Guard. Send requests for exceptions to the Office of the Secretary of the Army, Chief of Public Affairs HQDA(SAPA-PP), WASH DC 20310 with an information copy to HQDA(DAMI-ISI), WASH DC 20310.

- (3) Access to OPFOR FMT by nationals or representatives of Warsaw pact countries is prohibited.
- b. *Physical security.* Standards for the physical security of OPFOR FMT are the same as for like items of US materiel. These standards are found in AR 190-11 and AR 190-51.
- c. *Use.* OPFOR FMT will be used only in OPFOR and related training. It will be afforded the same care as similar US equipment and will not be subjected to undue risk of damage. For example, OPFOR FMT will not be used as targets during live firing.

23. Opposing Force Foreign Materiel for Training Equipment Distribution and Serviceability Report (RCS CSGID-149(R1)) (See fig. 1)

The purpose of this report is to account for the distribution and serviceability of OPFOR FMT in the US Army. The preparing activity is the 203d MI Bn (TI). Feeder reports received from units and installations holding OPFOR FMT will be the basis of this report. This report will be prepared when requested by and one copy will be sent to HQDA(DAMI-ISI), WASH DC 20310.

**Section VI
Public Affairs**

24. Objectives

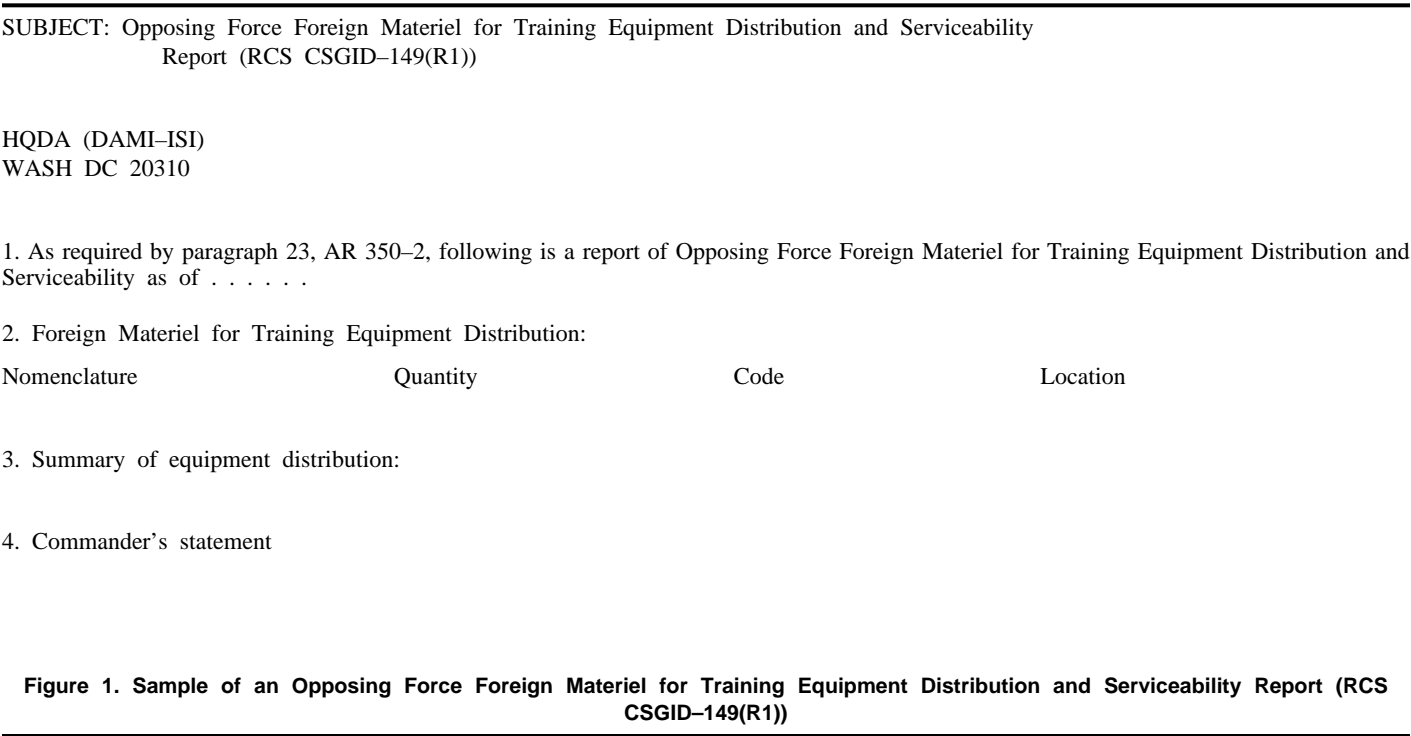
- The objectives of the public affairs program for OPFOR are—
- a. To inform the US soldier about OPFOR training.
- b. To respond to public inquiries about OPFOR training in the US Army.

25. Release of OPFOR information

- a. *Public information.* Installation commanders may release unclassified information to the news media about OPFOR training, if the information is within the mission and scope of their command. Inquiries outside the mission and scope of a given command are referred to the next higher headquarters. Inquiries about the overall aspects of the OPFOR program will be sent to HDDA(SAPA-PP), WASH DC 20310. As a matter of policy, the source of OPFOR equipment and materiel will not be revealed.
- b. *Command information.* All commanders participating in the OPFOR program will use available print and audiovisual outlets to keep soldiers informed about OPFOR training.
- c. *Community relations.* The display of OPFOR FMT outside certain facilities is limited. (See para 22 a (2)). All commands with OPFOR FMT will resolve, at the installation level, requests for access to PFOR FMT or for OPFOR training demonstrations. All commands will refer interpretation questions to the Chief of Public Affairs, DA.
- d. *Hometown news release.* All commands will prepare hometown news releases about soldiers or units involved in OPFOR training according to DA Pamphlet 360-3.

26. Coordination

In emergency situations, direct contact between installation commanders and the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, DA is authorized. Installation public affairs officers will inform the Chief of Public Affairs at intermediate headquarters when they have contact with the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, DA.



Appendix A

Section I Required Publications

This section contains no entries.

Section II Related Publications

A related publication is merely a source of additional information.
The user does not have to read it to understand this regulation.

AR190-11

Physical Security of Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives

AR 190-51

Security of Army Property at Unit and Installation Level

AR 350-1

Army Training

AR 700-99

Acquisition, Accounting, Control and Disposal of Captured Enemy
Equipment and Foreign Materiel

DA PAM 360-3

Manual for the Preparation of Army Hometown News Material

FM 21-6

How to Prepare and Conduct Military Training

FM 30-102

Opposing Force: Europe

FM 34-71

North Korean Training Module: North Korean Military Forces

TC 21-5-7

Training Management in Battalions

Section III Prescribed Forms

This section contains no entries.

Section IV Referenced Forms

This section contains no entries.

Glossary

Section I Abbreviations

ACSI

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence

ARTEP

Army Training and Evaluation Program

CG

Commanding General

CNGB

Chief, National Guard Bureau

COA

Comptroller of the Army

DA

Department of the Army

DARCOM

US Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command

DCSLOG

Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics

DCSOPS

Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans

DCSPER

Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel

DCSRDA

Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development, and Acquisition

DOD

Department of Defense

FORSCOM

US Army Forces Command

FMT

foreign materiel for training

HQDA

Headquarters, Department of the Army

INSCOM

US Army Intelligence and Security Command

MACOM

major Army command

NTC

National Training Center

OPFOR

Opposing Force

OPFOR FMT

foreign materiel for training used in the OPFOR program

PARR

Program Analysis and Resource Review

PDIP

Program Development Increment Package

PLI

prescribed load lists

TRADOC

US Training and Doctrine Command

USAICS

US Army Intelligence Center and School

Section II Terms

Opposing Force (OPFOR)

An organized force created from US Army units trained, organized, and equipped to portray the doctrine, tactics, and configuration of a potential adversary armed force during US Armed Forces training. OPFOR foreign materiel for training (FMT). Equipment, weapons, weapon systems, and ammunition manufactured or used by a potential adversary and approved for use in OPFOR training.

OPFOR training module

Information provided on an approved potential adversary (such as the Soviet Union) in field manuals written to support the OPFOR program.

Potential adversary

Any foreign nation or organization so designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence whose activities or strategic interests suggest that it could challenge the national security interests of the US, such as the Soviet Union or North Korea.

Section III

Special Abbreviations and Terms

There are no special terms.

Unclassified

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